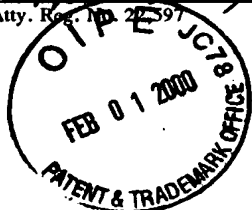


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PATENT
Case No.: 970/045

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)

Robert D. Brand)

Serial No.: 09/377,120)

Filed: August 19, 1999)

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS)
FOR RETAINING A FLITCH)
FOR CUTTING)

) Art Unit: 3725
)
) Examiner: W. Donald Bray

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please add the following claim that has been copied from U.S. Patent No. 5,865,232, issued February 2, 1999, entitled METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CUTTING VENEER SHEETS FROM A TAPERED FLITCH and listing Thomas A. Miller and C. Pinkston as inventors. This patent issued from the U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/813,669 filed March 7, 1997. Claim 39 below is claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,865,232 (the '232 patent).

38.
39. A method for cutting veneer sheets from a tapered flitch, comprising the steps of
providing a staylog for a veneer slicing machine
having a veneer slicing knife;
attaching a flitch having a tapered veneer producing face to the staylog with the tapered veneer producing face

Rule
124